(b) on what considerations the said two societies were selected and by when the land would be transferred in favour of the remaining fourteen societies; and

(c) what is the amount of development charges received so far by the Greater Noida Authority from the members of each of the above mentioned sixteen Cooperative Group Housing Societies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) The Greater Noida Authority (GNA) has reported that it had entered into MOUs with 18 cooperative societies for taking over the land of these societies in Greater NOIDA's notified area and allotment of developed plots to the members of these societies in residential area of the Authority. The GNA has executed sale deed with two of these societies to take over their land as per the MOU and has paid stamp duty, being the buyer of the land. These were the first two societies which came forward to register sale deeds after completing the necessary formalities. The land of the Authority has not yet been transferred to the members of any society, though allotments have been made to their members in accordance with the MOUs.

On reviewing the matter, the GNA has found that the legal transfer of the title over the land from the societies may not be possible as the Societies may have acquired land in excess of 12.50 acres, which is not legally permissible due to existing ceilling laws. Accordingly, the Authority has issued show-cause notices to these societies for declaring the MOUs void on account of their inability to legally transfer the title of the land.

The total amount of development charges received so far by the Authority from the members of sixteen cooperative societies is Rs. 9,73,80,948/-. In case the transfer of land to the allottees does not take place, the development charges would be returned to the concerned Members of the societies.

Encroachment on Pavements in Kalkaji and Govindpuri

*388 SHRI GYANRANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pavements, made for the pedestrians on both sides of roads in Kalkaji and Govindpuri areas, have been encroached upon by the shopkeepers and the squatters in connivance with the local police, causing inconvenience and hardship to the people;

(b) if so, what action is being taken by Government to vacate the encroachments; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check the encroachments permanently in order to avoid road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that there are some encroachments of temporary nature on the pavements in Kalkaji and Govindpuri. Such encroachments are removed by the enforcement staff of Municipal Corporation of Delhi from time to time. But, being of temporary nature, they have a tendency to reoccur at the same or nearby sites. During 1996, MCD carried out 7 raids in Kalkaji & removed 230 encroachments and 2 raids in Govindpuri & removed 82 encroachements.

The Delhi Police have denied any connivance on the part of local police.

(c) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has issued directions to its enforcement staff to increase the frequency of raids in this area with a view to check future encroachments.